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Editorial Committee Helen Post-- Stanley Manierre-- Akiko Yamaguchi

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STUDENTS TO STAGE MODEL UNCTAD

University students will step into the shoes of national and international figures to conduct UNCTAD III--a model United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, as the content of the 12th Annual International Student Seminar, to be held March 13-17 at Tozanso, Gotemba, under the sponsorship of Waseda Hoshien and the National YMCA.

Student delegations representing sixteen different countries in Asia, Europe, Africa and The Americas will move from a opening plenary session through a series of nine business sessions dealing with pivotal issues in world trade and international relations.

Three questions will be central to the UNCTAD III deliberations: Should the 1% GNP of aid (assumed to have been agreed upon by the developed nations) be channeled through UNCTAD? Should all the world be one free trade area? Should foreign aid go only to the industrial sector in the developing countries?

Teams at twelve universities are already deep in the study of the economic and social problems of the countries they will represent on the floor of the conference. The only formal address will be a keynote speech by UNCTAD III General Secretary Yoshio Umezawa, a political science major at Waseda University and chairman of the planning committee.

At the present time, delegations are scheduled to come from Aoyama Gakuin, Doshisha, Fukushima University, Gakushuin, Hokuriku Gakuin, International Christian University, Kanto Gakuin, Kobe SCF, Kwansei Gakuin, Tokyo Woman's Christian College, Tsuda College and Waseda University.

PROBLEMS BEHIND THE INDUSTRIAL PROSPERITY

by Akiko Yamaguchi

"Japan's large industries boast of their employee benefits, but what young workers want is more open human relationships, when they leave their automated work routines at the end of the day," an industrial counselor told members of the Urban-Industrial Mission Conference held in Osaka, January 28-30.

Fifty-six Protestant pastors and four Roman Catholic priest-observers participated in the discussions, panels, lectures and four under the direction of the NCC Committee on Urban-Industrial Mission. Yodogawa Zenrinkan in Osaka was the setting.

The counselor who described the problems workers bring to her office was Miss Kumiko Nakamura, of Matsushita Electric Co., one of several panelists discussing the worker today. The chairman of a union of Dobuike store-owners contrasted an industrial worker's situation with that of workers in traditional clothing-shops, which broke long-established patterns by going to a six-day week only ten years ago. Recently the recreational and educational needs of the young workers have become a serious issue. Persons in the Ikuno area, where homes are also factories, experience a high rate of infant mortality and increasing juvenile delinquency. Yet they actually have far greater security than do the day laborers of South Nishinari, who live in doya--lodging houses where they pay ¥150 (40¢) a night.

Rev. Hisashi Musatani, of the Nishinari Church, asked that Christians in Japan have a discerning eye with regard to the "double-structure" in the Japanese economy in which there is a very prosperous industrial sector and, at the same time, a labor force of temporary workers who have no security at all.

Seminar members toured Matsushita Electric Co, where every day hundreds of tape recorders come off the assembly conveyor-belts; Ikuno Church, with its day nursery for working mothers; the Nishinari Community Center, where the government sponsors a community school for school drop-outs; and Nishinari Church, situated in the first floor of a modern low-income apartment house that was built in response to the local citizens' demand for better housing.

Speaking on city planning, Prof. Masami Onda of Osaka Furitsu University observed that when a city carries out programs aimed at improving transportation and other public facilities, it must take definite steps to avoid, at the same time, alienating the persons who live there.

"Technology produces new public nuisances," Prof. Onda warned. "The solution to such problems must come about as the result of the solidarity of the residents!"

Prof. Masao Takenaka of Doshisha discussed problems of the future industrial society under the headings of: The New Technology, Human Beings and Power, and A World without God.

The meaning of the church, as a minority, was emphasized--that the small group is indeed a sign of the escatological community--the new humanity, he said "The Church in Japan, which is a minority, must have a different approach in mission from that of western churches," Dr. Takenaka said. "Can we be a creative minority?" he asked.

Bible studies related to the lives of modern workers, the problems of city dwellers, and the church's responsibility toward them were led by Rev. Hiromu Miyoshi, The United Church of Christ, and Rev. Nozomu Naide, The Episcopal Church.

The 1969 5th Annual conference was attended by many persons who had not been at any of the previous conferences. Group discussions were lively, as pastors discussed their struggles, experiments, and hopes. Summaries of local urban-industrial mission developments, as reported at the meeting, will appear in the next issue of JCAN.

SHINGEKI

Dramas by Rinzo Shiina and Kaname Takado, performed at The Actors' Theater of the Haiyuza Troupe in Tokyo in early February, have projected Christian themes into Shingeki, the "New Theater."

In Mujaki na Hanzai (Innocent Crime), Shiina, a well-known writer, deals with man's tendency, in his search for "true freedom," to lay hold of, and absolutize, what is not true, making a "god" of it. The Takado play, Yoiyasa no Yoiyasa, expresses, through the Okayama-ben dialogue between an old man and an old women, the author's hope that people who have lost all hope and live a kind of dead existence might, in freedom in Christ, come to live new active lives. Takado is editor of Gekkan Kirisuto (Christ Monthly) and head of the publishing department of Kyo Bun Kwan.

Takado directed both plays, which were performed by Dojinkai, a Shingeki group. The script to the Takado play appeared in the December, 1968, issue of Shingeki. Shiina's play was printed in Tane, the publication of Tane no Kai, an association of Protestant writers, started by Shiina in 1960 as a seed bed for Christian writers.

OILS PROMINENT AT HOSHIEEN EXHIBIT

Waseda Hoshien once again presents an exhibition of contemporary Christian art, February 9-16, at the Student Center adjoining the Waseda University campus. Large-scale oil paintings will be a prominent part of the exhibit although the works of printmakers and sculptors will also be shown.

Artists whose works will be exhibited include: (Oils) Tadao Tanaka, Osamu Nishizaka, Tsutomu Sato, Shizuko Oba, Yoshimi Kubo, Juro Furuta; (Prints) Masami Nakayama, Sadao Watanabe, (Sculpture) Koichiro Masaka, Yasutake Funakoshi, Keiji Kosaka, Issaku Tomura.

Exhibition hours will be from 1:00 to 6:00 daily. The Hoshien, 550 1-chome, Totsuka-machi, Shinjuku, is near the Waseda subway stop on the Tozai line and is also accessible from the Takadanobaba station of the Yamate line. Sponsors are the Waseda Hoshien and the Waseda Church of the United Church of Christ.

"GOOD NEWS" IS GOOD NEWS IN JAPAN TOO

As appreciated by English readers in Asia as it has been in other parts of the world, the Today's English Version of the New Testament (originally published as "Good News for Modern Man") is now being printed in Japan, through a special arrangement between the Japan Bible Society and the American Bible Society. A print run of 30,000 copies of a pocket-sized edition will be distributed in Southeast Asian countries as well as Japan.

A new edition of the New Testament, in 10-point type, designed for persons of limited sight, will be available in mid-February, published at the request of the Council of Christian Evangelism for the Blind in Japan.

Almost 4½ million copies of the Scriptures were distributed in Japan in 1968, according to Rev. T. Shunzo Miyauchi, JBC General Secretary. The figure shows a small decrease from 1967 due primarily to the reduction in the number of colporteurs and a revision in distribution patterns. Contributions in Japan--a crucial item as JBS moves into an era of self-support, increased slightly. Eighty local committees have been organized on an interdenominational basis to assist in fund-raising, Bible distribution, and promotion.

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HEADLINE-MAKING EVENTS

...compiled by Ichiji Yokota
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TOKYO GOVERNOR MINOBE CREATED A SENSATION when he announced his intention to abolish government-sponsored gambling, including horse races, bicycle races, auto races, boat races, lotteries, etc. Since the war, the Tokyo government has used the profits from gambling to rebuild educational institutions and support social work centers, etc.

JAPAN SOCIALIST PARTY CHAIRMAN NARITA urged Socialists at the 32nd Extra Convention of the JSP to strengthen their party structure for the struggle in '70 so as not to be false to the nation's expectations.

AN AGREEMENT COVERING THE RETURN OF OKINAWA TO JAPAN SHOULD BE CONCLUDED this year, most participants in the Japan-U.S. Kyoto Conference Jan. 28-31 said. They agreed unanimously on the need for attention to the human rights of the Okinawans. Sponsored by the Okinawa Base Problem Research Institute, the conference was composed primarily of university professors and Asia experts, including former U.S. Ambassador Edwin O. Reischauer.

THE THREATENED GENERAL STRIKE February 4 for removal of B52 planes from Okinawa was cancelled through the efforts of Okinawa officials Chobyō Yara and Kokichi Kameko, after Prime Minister Sato and Foreign Minister Aichi expressed fear that such a zenesuto (general strike) would jeopardize discussions on the return of Okinawa. Yara is the recently elected chief executive of the Ryūkyū government, Kameko, chairman of the Okinawa Joint Struggle Council for the Protection of Human Lives.

UNIVERSITIES, OKINAWA, THE SECURITY TREATY are the main problems facing the 61st Regular Session of the Diet, which opened Jan. 27. Replying to questions on the reversion of Okinawa following his policy speech, Prime Minister Sato declared that the government's three-point non-nuclear principle (against possessing, producing, introducing nuclear weapons) can be observed because of the guarantee that U.S. power can maintain peace and stability in Asia. Sato defined two prevailing opinions: 1. Seek prior reversion of administrative rights, if there is a guarantee that the Bases on Okinawa will come under the same restrictions as those in Japan in the future; 2. Refuse approval of nuclear weapons, even if it means delaying the time of reversion. Sato favors the first.

CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX for 1968 was 115.1, (1965=100), up 5.3 over 1967.